

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

*Please replace the title with the following amended title:*

CENTRIFUGING SETTLING TUBE AND ORGANIC CELL COLLECTION  
TUBE

*Please insert the following new paragraph immediately after the title on page 1 of the above-identified specification.*

This application is a U.S. national stage application of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/014707, filed September 29, 2004 designating the U.S, and is based on and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a) to Japanese Application No. 2003-340495 filed on September 30, 2003, the entire contents of both of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 3 of page 10 with the following amended paragraph.*

The settling tube 1 has the collecting portion 6 formed in the space formed by the surface of the distal end of the ring-like elastic member 32, the inner surface of the distal portion of the bottomed tube 2, and the outer surface of the distal portion of the inner tube 3. In a state in which the inner tube 3 is inserted into the bottomed tube 2, and the ring-like elastic member 32 is in contact with the inner surface of the distal portion of the bottomed tube 2, the proximal portion of the inner tube 3 is not in contact with the proximal distal end of the bottomed tube 2. That is, a clearance is provided between the proximal portion of the inner tube 3 and the proximal end of the bottomed tube 2. Therefore by a centrifugal force generated when the

centrifugal separation is performed, the inner tube 3 is allowed to move a little toward the distal end of the bottomed tube 2. Therefore by utilizing the centrifugal force generated when the centrifugal separation is performed, close contact between the ring-like elastic member 32 and the bottomed tube 2 is ensured.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 15 with the following amended paragraph.*

It is preferable that the organic cell collection tube has a liquid suction appliance connection connector 82 at its other end. The other end of the ~~body~~ organic cell collection tube may be formed as a portion which can be connected to a liquid suction appliance. It is preferable that the organic cell collection tube has a liquid suction appliance 81 connected to the other end thereof directly or through the connector 82.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 11 of page 18 with the following amended paragraph.*

The viscous substance-containing liquid layer 76 is provided in contact with the second aqueous liquid layer 75 and is disposed at one end of the tube. The viscous substance contained in the liquid layer 75 76 is, for example, a water-soluble viscous polymeric compound. It is preferable that the viscous substance is water-soluble viscous polysaccharides. Particularly, it is preferable that the viscous substance is at least one selected from among the group of glycosamino glycan, glycuronane, methyl cellulose, dextran, pectin, starch, gum Arabic, and guar gum. It is preferable that the glycosamino glycan is at least one selected from among the

group of chondroitin sulfate, chondroitin, hyaluronic acid, dermatan sulfate, heparin, heparan sulfate, keratan sulfate, kerato-poly sulfate or salts of these substances or derivatives thereof. It is preferable that the content of the viscous substance in the liquid layer 76 is in the range of 1 - 20 mg/ml, although the content of the viscous substance is different according to the viscous substance used. As the solvent constituting the liquid layer, sterile water such as pure water, refined water, and the like is used, but the solvent is not limited thereto. The liquids used for the second aqueous liquid layer may be used as the solvent.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 27 of page 18 and extending to line 2 of page 19 with the following amended paragraph:*

Like an organic cell collection tube 80 shown in Fig. 16, the organic cell collection tube of the present invention may have a female hormone-containing layer 77 provided between the first aqueous liquid layer 73 and the first second air layer 74. As the female hormone, it is preferable to use at least one selected from among the group of pregnanediol, estrone (E1), estradiol (E2), estriol (E3), estetrol (E4), and progesterone.